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August 16, 1954

Dr. Bernard D. Davis
228 East 71st Street
New York 21, New York

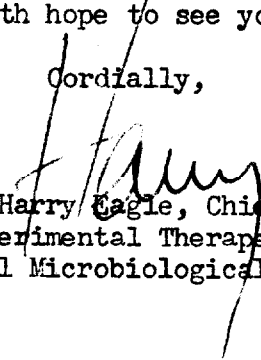
Dear Bernie:

I am frankly at a loss as to what to tell you about your proposed letter to the Times. I did write the Editor of the Times, but not for publication, to which I had a non-committal reply that the reporter was out of town and that I would hear from them later. Your summary of my paper is entirely correct, and I agree with the points you have made. If it rested with me, I think I would prefer to let the whole thing drop. Although my letter to the Times was not as detailed as yours, I think it was sufficiently strong that the reporter received a deserved reprimand from the Editor; at the very least, his attention was certainly called to the misquotation. I am not sure that anything more would be gained by your letter except perhaps to stir up controversy and invite more letters from readers, which could serve no useful purpose.

However, this is after all your letter and Josh's. If you do decide to send the letter, I suggest that you delete paragraph 5. The press at the Rutgers meeting asked for an interview with me before I gave my paper. I was pressed for time, and was disinclined to do so in any case, because I thought my review was not newsworthy. Your point is still valid, for the Times reporter should certainly have attempted to see me after I gave my paper if he intended to make a spread of it, ~~as he did~~.

My visit to Israel was most worthwhile, but hardly restful. Hope and I went to Maine for two weeks soon after my return, and I have only just gotten back to the laboratory to find your letter. We both hope to see you soon. All the best.

Cordially,


Harry Eagle, Chief
Experimental Therapeutics
National Microbiological Institute

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